



ABBEVILLE C. H., S. C.:

Wednesday, Dec. 22, 1847.

We are requested to state that there will be preaching in the Methodist Church, in this place, on next Sabbath, by the Rev. Mr. Gamewell.

"Murder Will Out."

We learn that one of the negroes now in prison at this place, under suspicion of murdering his master, Mr. L. Wideman, has confessed to the fact. He says he alone is the guilty one, and that he was unaided.

Meeting of the Doctors.

By reference to a notice found in this paper, it will be seen that the Doctors contemplate holding a meeting on Sale Day next at this place, in order to adopt some measures towards elevating the standard of their profession. We regard this as praiseworthy and it is a step which should have been taken years ago. The requisitions in nearly all the Medical Colleges throughout the United States are so trifling, that any man now, educated or uneducated, with but little reading and a smattering of the profession can procure a license to practice. Consequently, the profession has become crowded, and men have almost ceased to respect not only the profession but the name of Doctor.

If there is any class of men who should be learned and most thoroughly acquainted with their profession, next to Ministers of the Gospel, it is the Doctors of our land. The responsibilities resting upon them are very great; into their hands the sick and afflicted trust themselves, relying upon their skill for relief. And surely that man is not to be envied in feelings, if he has any, who from want of a proper attention to his profession mistakes the disease of his patient, and by administering a wrong dose, hasten his death; and yet we doubt not that hundreds of such instances have occurred. Instead of being required to read medicine for two years, six should be the shortest time in which any student should be granted a license.

Go on Doctors, elevate the standard of your profession; in this you will be sustained by the general voice of the people. Then may you hope to see the thousand nostrums which are ruining the constitutions of our fellows, with quacks and impostors driven from amongst us.

Award of Premiums.

We have had described to us a very interesting scene which took place in Greenwood on Friday last at the Female Academy, under the control of the Baptist denomination, conducted with much skill and success by Professors NICHOLLS and his LADY. It was on the occasion of a distribution of premiums of considerable value given by the Principal to the first and second best compositions in each of the first two classes. We understand the compositions which were read to the company were highly creditable to their respective writers. The distribution was made by the Rev. JAMES M. CHILDS who addressed the Pupils in a few but happily adapted remarks.

We are pleased to learn that the prospects of this Academy for the ensuing year are quite flattering. The attention of the public is invited to the advertisement of this school in to-day's paper.

The Legislature.

Adjourned on Friday last. Nothing of very great importance has been done by this body this session. The bill asking appropriations for the several Rail Road projects was lost. The Resolution giving Chancellor Harper's family 3,500 was finally passed.

Latest From Mexico.

The news from Mexico is interesting and highly important if true. The first rumor is that Santa Anna is in the field again with an army of 18,000 men threatening to dissolve the Congress now in session at Queretaro; and that Gen. Worth with a strong force had been sent to protect it in its deliberations. This however is not to be relied upon, for it is believed that Santa Anna has not at this time more than 200 men at his command.

Gen. Anaya was elected President on the 14th ult, his present term of office extends only to the 8th of January next. It is said

he is in favor of peace, also the whole administration. Commissioners were sent to the city of Mexico to re-open negotiations with Mr. Trist, but before their arrival, his powers had been revoked and they were consequently referred by Gen. Scott to the General Government at Washington.

It is stated also, that Gen. Worth, and Pillow and Lt Col. Duncan had been arrested by command of Gen. Scott in consequence of some letters falling into his hands, reflecting upon his character.

Gen. Shields.

This distinguished leader of our Regiment has at last arrived in our State and met with a hearty reception from our citizens. In Columbia he was the lion of the day, whilst he remained and every attention was paid him by the good citizens of that place. He is now in Charleston on his way to Washington.

From Washington.

We have nothing that would interest our readers from Congress the most important item is, the appointment of Committees, those of the Senate are much the same as at the last Session but in the House a considerable change has been made. We shall look for the news from Washington with some anxiety as this will be an important session.

From the Senate Journal, December 16, 1847. RECEIPTION OF GEN. SHIELDS IN THE SENATE CHAMBER.

At the hour of half-past eleven o'clock, His Excellency, the Governor, attended by his suite, and the committee of arrangements, was announced at the bar of the House. Mr. Buchanan, chairman of the committee on the part of the Senate, advanced with Brigadier-General Shields up the aisle fronting the President's desk, and addressed the President as follows:

Mr. President—The committee of the Senate appointed for the occasion, have the honor of introducing to the Senate, the guest of the State, Brigadier-General Shields. The brave, the gallant, the humane and the victorious General—the commander of the special friend and guardian of South Carolina's own Palmetto Regiment.

To which the President responded, as follows: General—In the name and on behalf of the body over whose deliberations I have the honor to preside, I greet you as the guest of the State—and respectfully invite you, with his Excellency, to a seat in this chamber.

At the announcement of Gen'l. Shields, the heart of the Carolinian glows with quick, generous emotion. Thought wings her way to distant battle-fields, where glory and renown have been won by a gallant army for a conflicting country. The rough incidents, and brilliant feats of those stirring scenes in which you have so largely participated, rise irresistibly and vividly to the mind. At Cerro Gordo, where the bold impetuous Harney scaled the rocky steep, and carried the heights by storm at Contreras, where was exhibited the rare virtue of a Brigadier General waiving rank, and generosity aiding the well-laid plans of his junior—at Churubusco, where the chivalry of our people, and the prowess of American arms were illustrated in a remarkable manner, and where the lamented Butler fell; in those last engagements—in the nearer approaches to Mexico—under the walls—within the gates of the city—you witnessed the conduct and courage, the devotion and death of the brave and valued sons of Carolina. You shared with their dangers, privations and triumphs.

Welcome to the hospitalities of their mother country! Welcome to the hearths of those, whose brothers and friends you have marshaled in War—have defended in council! Welcome to the grateful hearts of those, whose sons, brothers and friends have, under your watchful care, been nursed when wounded and bleeding—been soothed and comforted when dying—been cherished and solaced when drooping under the influence of disease and hardship, in a foreign land, far from home! Be one of us! The Senate of South Carolina once more offers you a hearty welcome!

General Shields responded warmly and eloquently to the address expressing his grateful sense of the honors he had received among the people of South Carolina.

General Shields and His Excellency, the Governor, then accepted the seats provided for them and the business of the Senate was suspended for one hour, during which time the members of the Senate, and the citizens who thronged the Senate Chamber on the occasion, were presented and paid their respects to General Shields.

From the House Journal, December 16, 1847. IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

General Shields accompanied by His Excellency the Governor, and the Joint Committee of both House appointed to make arrangements for his reception, entered the Hall of the House, and was introduced by Mr. Jamison Chairman of the Committee of this House; when the Speaker rose and said:

General—I have the honor, in behalf of this branch of this General Assembly, to express to you the great gratification we feel in becoming personally acquainted with one who is already so favorably known to us by reputation, and is now endeared to us

by the most interesting associations.

In their name I tender you a cordial welcome to South Carolina, and by their authority I invite you to a seat on the floor of this House.

To which General Shields replied:—Mr. Speaker—It affords me much pleasure to make the acquaintance of the representatives of the people of South Carolina. The association to which you have alluded, sir, are as dear to me as they can be to this honorably body, and I shall ever regard it as among the most fortunate events of my life, that I have been brought into fellowship with the citizens of a State so distinguished as South Carolina.

I feel most sensibly the generous manner in which I have been received in your Capital, and in accepting a seat on the floor of the House, permit me to return to the body over which you preside, my profound acknowledgments for the compliment bestowed on me.

From the South Carolinian.

We have been favored with the following Extract from a letter written by an officer in the Regular service, to a gentleman of this State, which will be read with great interest.

There were many instances of personal valor and heroism displayed in these bloody battles, and among your acquaintances I must mention the name of Eldred Simkins, a member of the Edgemoor Company. He has acted nobly throughout and has won the praise of the Regiment. On the evening before the battle of Chapultepec, while the enemy's batteries and ours were at pretty hot work, an order was issued that a storming party, to consist of two hundred and fifty men, should be formed. It was thought that the fight would be desperate, and that death would be the fate of those who were ahead. When the South Carolina Regiment was called on to furnish its men, (which was seven), there seemed to be some slight commotion in the ranks. But it was only momentary; for almost immediately Eldred Simkins stepped forward, followed by R. Watson of the Abbeville Company, declaring that they were ready to go wherever they were told. The remaining five were not long in following their example.

The next morning the firing of our batteries ceased which was the signal for the storming party to advance. Their march was directed to the battery at the base of the hill, and the intervening ground was a plain covered with small bushes, the tops of which being cut off, the protection afforded was very slight. They advanced over this plain for a considerable distance, amid the fire of cannon and musketry, without discharging a single gun. As they drew nearer, the fire became so extremely severe, and so many were shot down, that the slightest possible wavering began to be perceptible. It was at this time that the commander ordered a charge, and, turning to the South Carolinians, said—"come on my Palmetto boys, it is on you I depend." With these words, the charge became general, and then it was that all the Palmettos fell except Simkins. He was in the thickest of the fight and among the first to scale the walls. When I reached the Castle, he was about the first man I saw. He had a bottle of liquor in one hand, which he said he had taken from a Mexican soldier, and that he was now in search of Dick Watson to give him a drink." Watson had been wounded in the charge. As soon as he had found Dick and given him the liquor, he hurried off to join the Regiment which was then on its march towards the Garita. During the whole of the last fight he was always where there was the greatest danger, and Captain Dessauure informed me that, after the entire Regiment had retired from within the Garita, he remained behind attempting to tie up the wounds of Blocker and others belonging to his company. He has since been promoted from the ranks."

A Washington letter in the Philadelphia Inquirer says:—The President does not recommend, in his Message, the establishment of a mission to Rome, but I learned that it will hereafter be proposed. Mr. Wickliffe has been recalled from Turin, and thus, some five Charges are to be appointed. Mr. Trist will, it is supposed, have either Rome, Naples or Turin. Mr. Waddell, of New York, is, I learn, very strongly recommended for one of the vacancies.

CONDITION OF THE FREE BLACKS IN THE NORTHERN CITIES.—The Philadelphia Bulletin makes the following statement:—During the month of November the Coroner held 44 inquests and 22 views, in all 66, and being an average of over two a day! Most of these were in the wretched hovels of Moyamensing, occupied by the degraded blacks who have died of disease generated by their squalid mode of life—from the want of medical attention and proper nourishment, and from intemperance, exposure, and neglect.

This is the condition of comfort and happiness to which the fanatical philanthropists of the North would elevate the Blacks of the Southern States!

A CURIOUS SOCIETY.—A Society in Cincinnati, called the "Last Man," held its anniversary meeting in that city on Wednesday, the 17th ult. It was organized sixteen years ago, and but four of its members now survive, which remnant met. No new members were taken in after organization, and the Society continues annually to meet as long as one survives.

From the Columbia Com. Herald. COLUMBIA, DEC. 13. SENATE.

Mr. Manning submitted a communication from Messrs. A. T. Burnley, Johnson & Co., of New-Orleans, asking to be refunded the sum of \$7,949.33, furnished the Palmetto Regiment, as an outfit on their way to Mexico.

Messrs. Manning, Buchanan and Hanna, were appointed a Committee on the part of the Senate, to join a similar Committee to be appointed on the part of the House to investigate and report of the same.

The following bill were read the second time to the House: A bill to confirm J. S. Bird, a naturalized citizen, a title to ascertain lot of land in the city of Charleston.

A bill to alter the law in relation to Magistrate's Executions, and the duty of Sheriffs as to Executions in their offices.

A bill to amend the charter of the Charleston Insurance and Trust Company, and also to amend an Act entitled "an Act to reduce the capital of the Charleston Insurance and Trust Company," passed 19th day of December 1843.

A bill to establish a uniform day throughout the State for the election of Clerk, Sheriff, Ordinary, and Tax Collector.

A bill to increase the powers of the Commissioners of Cross Roads for Charleston Neck.

A bill to divide Beat Company No 3 Upper Battalion, 15th Regiment South C. Militia.

A bill to authorize the U. S. to purchase a piece of land in this State for the erection of a Light House.

A bill to incorporate the Charleston Sugar Refining Company.

A bill to provide for the election of Electors of President and Vice President of the U. S., was read the 2d time and rejected—Yeas 19, Nays 19.

The following Bills were also taken up for the 2d reading and rejected:

A bill to amend the sixth Section of an Act entitled and Act for the better regulation and government of free negroes and persons of color, and for other purposes, ratified 21d Dec. 1822.

A bill to require the Sheriffs of the several districts of this State to make annual reports of certain prisoners in their custody.

A bill to provide for the registry of Marriages, Births and deaths throughout the State.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The following Resolutions were submitted by Mr. DeSaussure, from the Committee on Foreign Resolutions:

1. *Be it Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, now met and sitting in General Assembly, That the Government of the U. States has no control, directly or indirectly, immediately or immediately, over the control, it transcends the limits of its legitimate functions by destroying the internal organization of the sovereignties who created it.*

2. *Resolved, That all territory which may be acquired by the arms of the United States or yielded by treaty with any foreign power belonging to the several States of the Union as their joint and common property, in which each and all have equal rights; and that the enactments by the Federal Government of any law, which should directly, or by its effects, prevent the citizens of any State from emigrating with their property of whatever description into such territory, would make a discrimination unwarranted by and in violation of the Constitution, and the rights of the State, from which such citizens emigrated, and in derogation of that perfect equality that belongs to the several States as members of this Union, and would tend directly to subvert the Union itself.*

3. *Resolved, That if in disregard alike of the spirit and principle of the Act of Congress, on the admission of the State of Missouri Compromise, and of every consideration of justice, of constitutional right and of fraternal feeling, the fearful issue shall be forced upon the country, which must result from the adoption and attempted enforcement of the proviso aforesaid, as an Act of the General Government, the people of S. Carolina can have no difficulty in choosing between the only alternative that will then remain, of abject submission to aggression and outrage on the one hand, or determined resistance on the other, at all hazards, and to the last extremity.*

4. *Resolved, That this General Assembly holds it to be the duty of every man, in every section of the Confederacy, if the Union is dear to him, to oppose the passage of any law, for whatever purpose, by which territory to be acquired may be subject to a restriction.*

5. *Resolved, That the passage of the above mentioned Proviso makes it the duty of every slave-holding State, and of all the citizens thereof, as the value their dearest privileges, their sovereignty, their independence, and their rights of property, to take firm, united, and concerted action in this emergency.*

The House proceeded to the special order of the day, which was a Bill giving the election of Electors of President and Vice President of the United States to the people, and various other measures in relation thereto, after discussion a Bill, offered by Mr. Davis to provide for the appointment of Electors of President and Vice President of the United States, by the people of South Carolina, was read the second time, agreed to, and ordered to the Senate. Yeas 64, Nays 54.

The Bill offered by Mr. Memminger on the same subject, was next discussed, and with all matters relating thereto, was laid upon the table. Yeas 70, Nays 46.

LATEST FROM MEXICO.

From the New Orleans Picayune, 13th inst.

Important News!

The schr. Portia, Capt. Wakeman, arrived here on Sunday afternoon, having sailed from Vera Cruz on the 13th inst.

The news by this arrival is very important, and first of all, the story about Santa Anna's being at the head of 18,000 men, and threatening and overawing Congress, and the despatch of Gen. Worth to Queretaro to protect Congress—all turns out to be mere moonshine; no more authentic than Gen. Scott's famous entry into Mexico in the middle of July last. A gentleman thoroughly conversant with Mexican affairs, who came passenger on the Portia, assures us from the best information he could obtain, he is satisfied that in place of being in command of eighteen thousand men, Santa Anna has not eighteen hundred, nor even a hundred and eighty followers.

Gen. Anaya was elected President of Mexico on the 11th inst. He has once before been Provisional President. His present term of office extends only to the 8th of January next. He is known to be in favor of peace. The whole administration is in favor of an honorable peace, and one of its first acts was to despatch a commission to the city of Mexico to re-open negotiations with Mr. Trist. It is presumed they were referred to our Government at Washington.

The next most important intelligence by this arrival is the reported arrest of Gen. Worth, Gen. Pillow and Lieut. Col. Duncan, by Gen. Scott. The verbal report is that letters written by these gentlemen reflecting upon the commander-in-chief have fallen into his possession, upon which he arrested them. Letters from the city of Mexico of the 24th November make no mention of these arrests.

A resolution of A. Senor Zuliata, to erect the city of Mexico into an independent state during the occupation by the American army, which was rejected by the Congress, has made another proposition that the federal compact should be broken and the union destroyed, which was rejected at once.

The Governors of the States are still in session at Queretaro, and have proposed two questions to the Government, to which they demand clear and peremptory replies.

1st. In what character they have been called together, and will the Government submit to their decision.

2d. Will the Government make known, with clearness and frankness, the programme of its policy with regard to peace or war.

The Government had answered these two questions by stating that they had been called together solely for the purpose of throwing light upon the subject, that the General Government would be able in some manner to surrender its powers, and that it was more inclined to open or continue negotiations of peace than to prosecute the war.

There is no news as yet as to the dissolution of Congress. It is said that President Anaya has written to Gen. Rancan and several other influential persons, requesting them to repair to Queretaro and confer with them as to what steps he should take in the present crisis.

On the 5th inst., thirty-six waggons belonging to merchants in Mexico and Puebla, left the latter place with a lot of tobacco, dry goods and brandy, destined for this city. On reaching San Martin, Gens. Rea and Torrejon, in command of the guerrilla forces there, made a descent upon the waggons, captured them and started off for Queretaro via Tlascala. Information was conveyed to Gen. Lane at Puebla, who started after them with a force of infantry and the cavalry command of Capt. Roberts. When they reached Tlascala they found the enemy there and Capt. R., who had been sent to the rear of the town, seeing a movement to run off the train, charged upon the guerrillas, completely routed them, killed seventeen, and taking thirteen officers prisoners. In the meantime a portion of the waggons which had been taken a mile from the city by a party of the enemy, were set on fire and six destroyed, before the infantry came up, who rescued the remainder.

Santa Anna has assumed the command of the army in Ojinca. He avows his determination to oppose any negotiation for peace with the American forces occupying any portion of the Mexican territory.

Gen. Patterson's division left Jalapa on the 25th ult. Before leaving he hung, on the 23d, two American teamsters, for having killed a Mexican boy 12 years old, and two Mexican officers, who were taken prisoners commanding guerrillas, without having been exchanged.

YET LATER.

The steamship Virginia, Capt. Tucker, has just arrived from Vera Cruz, having left on the 7th inst.

The large train under command of Gen. Butler has nearly all left. The number of men accompanying it is estimated at 8,000. Gen. Scott will soon have from 25,000 to 30,000 men.

The Arco Iris of the 2d inst., says the Mexican Commissioners retired at once to Queretaro upon learning that Mr. Trist had no power to treat.

ANTIDOTE TO ARSENIC.—M. Bussy, of the Paris Academy of Sciences, says that magnesia, slightly calcined, or still better in a gelatinous state, is an antidote to arsenic. He says that when administered within a proper period after the taking of the poison, it absorbs it with great rapidity.